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CHARLES S. CRANE, Manager.

FRIDAY

DECEMBER 15

THE TRUTH WILL PREVAIL.

Dr. Doremus Scudder, whose recent attack upon the policy of the citizens' sanitary committee in The Friend aroused considerable comment, has taken the advice given him some days ago by The Advertiser and has attended a meeting of the committee in order to obtain firsthand information of the work of the committee, of its general plans, of the motives that underlie its actions and of the goal it expects to reach. As a result, Doctor Scudder now puts himself in line with the committee and has publicly announced his belief that the committee was thoroughly justified in what it has done.

No more bitter criticism of the committee has appeared than that from Doctor Scudder in his Friend editorial; no more substantial endorsement of the committee and its work has been given than that of Doctor Scudder in his letter yesterday to The Star, reprinted in this issue. The difference in the attitude of Doctor Scudder then and now is the difference between one who spoke under a misapprehension, fostered by false reports, and one who speaks with an intelligent knowledge of his subject. In criticizing his criticism, The Advertiser expressed the conviction that Doctor Scudder was well intentioned but misinformed. This the Doctor now acknowledges for himself, although he still believes that his criticism based on misinformation represents the sentiments of the majority of the citizens who are still misinformed.

Doctor Scudder's letter affords an opportunity for The Advertiser to make once more its position clear and to brush away the cobwebs of criticism that our friends have been industriously spinning for the past several weeks. In the first place, The Advertiser has not been attempting to answer the gush of foolish criticism aimed at it or at the committee, appreciating the fact that those who wanted to learn the truth could easily do so, while those who did not want the truth were not worth replying to. The majority of those who criticized the committee through the press wrote from the personal standpoint altogether, while the matter necessarily had to be considered in the light of its community effect. To the criticisms as made editorially in The Star, we felt that they effectively answered themselves. The unreason, the utter disregard for fact, the straining for funniness at the expense of fairness, the wanton blindness to the community good for the sake of supporting what was believed to be the popular cause, all helped to create a disgust at the attitude of that paper. It has been quite unnecessary for The Advertiser to waste the space any replies to The Star would have taken up. That paper has been thrown down by every person upon whom it depended for its campaign of misinformation. The entomologist, whom it misquoted repeatedly, disowned in public any responsibility for its garbled utterances; the physicians, whom it tried to inveigle into some sort of an approval of its course, refused to have anything to do with it; it day after day misquoted Doctor Blue in face of his denials of any such utterances as it credited him with; now Doctor Scudder, its last rock of refuge, not only throws it down but walks on it. The Star has discredited itself by its own discreditable efforts. So much for it.

The Advertiser, at the commencement of the sanitary campaign, placed itself at the service of the committee, believing that the men engaged in a public service such as theirs should have some means of keeping the public in touch with its work. The Advertiser detailed a representative to do nothing else but gather accurate and unbiased information concerning the campaign; it kept in close touch with the committee; it went upon the policy that it was inexpedient and foolish to devote any space to the publication of letters of individual complaint when no good object could be served by publishing them, and when space was required to present each day to the public the facts of the campaign. The Advertiser received many letters concerning bananas, some of which afterwards were sent by the writers to The Star. These came where something could be done with them. The department of the committee, many letters commending its position. These were not published, as it was thought unfair to publish one side without the other.

The statement made repeatedly that The Advertiser was "muzzled" and that it could not publish anything not approved of by the committee is unwarranted, untrue and has been so styled by the chairman of the sanitary committee, whose denial has not prevented the charge being made over and over again since it was published. The Advertiser has been under no bond of secrecy and has acted, in denying publication to letters of complaint, simply through its desire to help on the campaign for the public good and its disinclination to assist even obliquely in the campaign of silly opposition based on what was for the most part inexcusable ignorance.

The Advertiser announced repeatedly that the meetings of the committee were public, that the committee would welcome suggestions from the general public and would appreciate any interest shown by the public in the way of attendance at the meetings. We knew that it would be only a matter of time before every reasonable man in Honolulu would, having learned the truth, swing in behind the committee and be with The Advertiser. The little campaign of calumny had to run its course and as it hurt at no time there was never any object in attempting to stop it.

Doctor Scudder, in his manly stand now for what he is convinced is the right, in many respects in direct opposition to his previously expressed views, has opened the door for the other kickers to come through and join him on the side of sanitary progress. His appeal to all men to join now in working for the city's progress is one that should be heard. His frank acknowledgment that his previously expressed criticisms have been based on incomplete knowledge of the facts should be an example to all other men who desire to be at all fair.

The Advertiser now, as it has ever consistently tried to be, is ready to cooperate in every possible way with those out for a better Honolulu.

SECRETARY MEYER'S REPORT.

The annual report of Secretary of the Navy Meyer should have the effect of loosening up the purse strings of the treasury and the appropriation of large sums to meet the very pressing needs of the day, even though those purse strings are gripped in Democratic hands and it is the great desire of Democracy just now to make a showing for economy. The plain language of Secretary Meyer is pointing out the fact that the United States is simply marking time in naval construction and is falling back in certain lines should make plain even to the most ardent economist the fact that there is the danger of being penny wise and pound foolish, the risk of saving cents in pruning naval estimates and losing dollars through lack of prestige and inability to cope with possible situations.

Naval officers throughout the service will echo the secretary's hope that the Navy will be developed along broad lines, while one section of the report should be received with acclaim. This is the section in which he says:

It has long been recognized as a crying injustice to our higher-ranking naval officers that they are compelled to spend some part of their pay for entertainment which has no other purpose than to uphold the dignity of the government. In all other services than our own an entertainment fund is provided and is usually called "table money." For admirals of the different grades it is a fixed sum for each grade, and for other officers it varies according to the nature of the service. In all nations except our own it is recognized that entertainment to uphold the dignity of the Nation and for its benefit should be paid for by the Nation and not by the individual naval officer out of his own pocket. Of late years it has been possible to allot small sums for specific entertainments required of our ships, but this requires a specific authorization in each case. It should be provided that each commander in chief and officers acting singly should have a fixed sum to draw upon for official entertainments, and I recommend this to your consideration.

"Go to the ant" has attained added significance since the annual report of the secretary of agriculture has been given out. The secretary reports that the native ant of India is the natural enemy of the cotton boll weevil, but cannot survive the American winter, consequently the American ant has got on the job and is doing good work in holding the gulfing pest in check.

VICE ADMIRALS WILL THEY STAY?

Chairman Padgett of the house naval committee is now at work to prepare the first naval appropriation bill to be framed upon Democratic auspices for nearly twenty years. It is a very important measure in more ways than one, at any session and is particularly important this year. Admirals, captains and other naval officers gave rise to be called in to testify about a score of topics in connection with the rebuilding and the administration of the Navy. As big questions of policy, affecting the expenditure of millions of dollars, are involved, there is expected to be, as always, controversy as to what can best be done.

For years and years the house naval committee was made up of about the same men. Their views on questions of naval policy were pretty well known. This year, with the accession of the Democrats, the naval committee of the house numbers eleven new members. The old members there are about a half-dozen. Presumably economy will be a dominant theme in the committee and yet the course of the eleven new members will be followed closely by those who have something at stake in the framing of the naval appropriation bill. Usually the hearings on that appropriation bill are strung along through nearly half a year and the bill gets to the house only a month or two before adjournment. It may not be so this year, although Chairman Padgett has to demonstrate that. One big topic of controversy in the naval committee, year after year, is the amount of new construction, or in other words one or two new battleships. Annually for five or six years congress has authorized the construction of two new battleships. It is taken for granted that the Democratic house will authorize but one new battleship, on the ground that that is a reversion to the policy agreed upon during the earlier period of President Roosevelt's tenure and that an addition of one new dreadnought is sufficient any way, which is decidedly not what Secretary Meyer wants.

There is a terrible to-do over navy personnel every year. New plans for the organization of the commissioned force, not a few of them working out to give naval officers more rapid promotion or larger pay or some advantage or other, are urged with great vigor. Some of these plans have undoubted merit, but are handicapped by other considerations. Such a one is the proposed creation of two vice admirals, to command fleets on the Atlantic and Pacific. In that connection every year stories go forth about the indignities our naval commanders have to undergo in port with other navies, when little foreigners in charge of a few gunboats and minor craft have the pass over the chiefs of our magnificent fleets, much to the chagrin of every American whose blood is red. But opposition to this is intense.

The American people do not bear both sides of the story, say those opposed. It is true, they say, that the commander of the Atlantic fleet, for example, should be a vice admiral at least. It is not quite right that one of the rank of rear admiral should have all the responsibility of that great aggregation of fighting vessels. Men, who show capacity for a command of such importance, could well be given higher rank, temporarily.

The Navy, however, insists that the rank be permanent. Once a vice admiral always a vice admiral, is the navy slogan and it will probably be a long time before congress accedes to that. Once the grade of vice admiral is revived, three-fifths of all the officers in the Navy will retire as vice admirals. Some rear admirals receive \$4500 a year and perquisites, and other rear admirals receive \$7500 a year, with similar perquisites. When officers go upon the retired list at sixty-two, they have no more work to do, but receive three-fourths pay, without the perquisites. That makes an average salary of over \$4000 a year for the retired rear admirals of our Navy.

There are now upon the retired list about 350 naval officers, having the rank of rear admiral. Some were never rear admirals on the active list, but benefited by the system in common usage of retiring officers, in certain instances, one grade higher than they have attained in the active service. The rear admirals of the navy retired list accordingly are costing the government about \$1,000,000 a year and there is where the opposition comes in to vice admirals.

Congress recognizes that many of these men have earned their salaries and that many others, who drifted along from grade to grade, never earned a half of the money that the government paid them. There are incompetent officers in the Navy, as there are in other bodies of men in this world. But create the grades of vice admiral, say the economists, and the competent and incompetent alike—all who are able to escape court-martial and pass promotion examinations—will be eligible for vice admiral. In the course of a few years inevitably there would be forty or fifty vice admirals on the retired list, and the cost to the country would be running toward the second million mark. The rank of vice admirals, of course, carries high pay—something like \$10,000 a year.

The foreign nations that have the high naval ranks in their services do not seem to care for the higher rank in the United States Navy is due to the desire for the larger compensation. Congress was overcome by a similar campaign, on behalf of the Army and for a few years we had the rank of lieutenant-general. Quite a half-dozen officers attained to that rank, which many believe should be bestowed only for important service in the field in time of war. The Army is quite as top-heavy with brigadiers and major-generals on the retired list as the Navy is with rear-admirals.

There is a plan afoot to allow the officer in command of the Atlantic battleship fleet, for instance, the rank of vice admiral but only while he is in command of the fleet. It has much support among the lawmakers. The rumor goes, however, that the Army will never permit such legislation to be enacted until the grade of lieutenant-general is revived again. One might think the assertion that the Army will not permit it rather strong, but the lobby for the two services before congress is tremendously influential.

For these and other like reasons the grade of vice admiral for the fleet will hardly be revived at the session of congress this winter, unless it be in some fashion that will not make practically the whole commissioned force eligible for advancement to that grade.

THE COLONEL AND THE PRESIDENCY.

Evidently Colonel Roosevelt will have to make some more disclaimers. His friends place him in an embarrassing position. To announce a refusal of the office of President of the United States sounds presumptuous or worse, but the Colonel's admirers evidently intend to try to stampede the Republican convention for him. Some very impressive predictions are being made by political experts of the highest standing that if Taft runs he will be defeated. Probably these forecasts, together with Roosevelt's recent announcement that he would not support Taft, have caused the renewal of efforts of the third-termers to get their favorite into the race. Taft's own strange admission in Chicago that things didn't look very bright for the Republicans, must have been a contributing cause.

One thing might make possible a stampede of the Republican convention in favor of the Colonel. It is a withdrawal of Taft. According to all precedent, and in the opinion of all the best judges, Taft, if he chooses to do so, can take the nomination. By use of powers lodged in the executive office, as Presidents, including Roosevelt, have used them before, he can go into the convention with enough votes to settle the matter, and no amount of gallery stampeding will change pledged or instructed votes. It seems highly improbable that Taft will withdraw. Even if he should agree with the gloomy Republican leaders who think his nomination spells disaster to the party, he would probably rather go down fighting, and hope for recovery in 1910, after four years of Democratic rule, than admit defeat and step aside. However, Taft has shown some changeableness and as a politician much weakness, and the promise of men who are discussing the chances of his not seeking a re-nomination is such that the possibility is worth consideration.

Given a convention in which the majority of delegates, now practically assured to Taft, were left free to scatter among the other aspirants, and anything might happen. Roosevelt's wonderful strength in some States and his almost supernatural mastery of the game of politics would be likely to put him in control, enabling him if he insisted upon keeping his pledge not to run again, to name the candidate. The pledge not to run again, it will be remembered, as made on the night of his election, declared that he would never, under any circumstances, be a candidate again. And he has the memory of his last experience in New York State to help him stick to that idea, too.

If things on the mainland are such—and we cannot believe that the sound, sober sense of the Republican majority is not with the President—that Taft cannot be re-elected, there is no better reason for supposing that Roosevelt can. He is not invincible, by any manner of means, and it is foolish to suppose that Republican success depends upon the comeback of the Man From Elba.

There will be some salvage ready for the enterprising man who will save that one million five hundred thousand dollars on board the steamer Delia, which has gone ashore in the Mediterranean. There was no salvage for saving the Princess Louisa and the other passengers.

Food Commissioner Blanchard is trying to find out if the pot these days is as good as that "mother used to make."

POSTOFFICE ENDS

BACKSTAMPING MAIL

New Regulations Are Already in Effect and Stop Vexatious Delays.

Following the criticism by T. Clive Davis at the meeting of the trustees of the chamber of commerce on Wednesday, of the rule by which backstamping of letters is necessary, thus resulting in unnecessary delays in delivery, which nevertheless, has been in vogue here to the personal knowledge of more than one person, in spite of details has brought forth the following official notices from Postmaster Pratt, which should settle the matter:

Office of the Postmaster General, Washington, Nov. 14, 1911.
Order No. 3912: The requirements of section 611, postal laws and regulations, with reference to the backstamping of mail matter, except in so far as they affect special delivery and registered mail, are hereby suspended for the period beginning December 20, 1911, and ending January 3, 1912, in order to expedite the delivery of mail during the holiday season.

FRANK H. HITCHCOCK, Postmaster General.
At this office the above refers only to island letters, as backstamping of mainland mail was discontinued in Honolulu some time ago, in accordance with special order from the post office department.

Short-Paid Letters for Foreign Countries.
Office of Second Assistant Postmaster General, Washington, Nov. 22, 1911.

The Department is advised that many letters mailed in the United States addressed for delivery in foreign countries, notably China, which are subject to our Postal Union postage rate, are prepaid only two cents, the senders of the letters being under the impression, it is presumed, that our two-cent domestic postage rate is applicable to said letters.

The only foreign countries to which the two-cent letter rate applies are Canada, Cuba, Mexico, Newfoundland, the Canal Zone, the Republic of Panama, Germany (by direct steamers only), England, Scotland, Wales and Ireland, and the City of Shanghai, China. To all other countries, including all places in China other than Shanghai, the rate is five cents for the first ounce or fraction thereof and three cents for each additional ounce or fraction thereof, which must be fully prepaid, or the letters become liable on delivery to a charge equal to double the amount of the deficient postage. For instance, a single-rate letter prepaid only two cents, being short-paid three cents, would be subject on delivery to an additional postage charge of six cents.

As charges for postage due on short-paid letters gives rise to much complaint, postmasters are directed to caution the patrons of their offices respecting the matter and to give this notice the widest publicity possible.

JOHN C. BREWSTER, Second Assistant P. M. Gen.

LEAVES FEDERAL

FOR TERRITORIAL

IMMIGRATION WORK

Raymond C. Brown has sent his resignation as inspector in charge of the federal immigration station here to Washington, and has accepted the position of immigration agent with the territorial board of immigration, to succeed Agent A. J. Campbell, who is now in Europe.

Inspector Brown will be the head of the immigrant recruiting work for the Territory and will proceed to England and thence to Spain and Portugal for the recruiting of laborers to be brought here. Mr. Campbell, whom he succeeds, was only induced to return to Europe by the board of immigration after considerable persuasion and is anxious to get back to Honolulu.

The immigrants whom he sent here on the Willenden are only some of those he has recruited this trip and the British steamer Harpalion is chartered to bring another load. Mr. Brown will take up the work and it is expected that a continuous supply of desirable immigrants will be coming to Hawaii from this time on.

Mr. Brown is a man who thoroughly understands his work, having been connected with the federal immigration service here for ten years or more. He will sail from this port on January 6 to take up his new work in Europe. Inspector Richard L. Halsey will take charge of the federal immigration station work.

NOTED AUTHORESS

IS DEAD IN LONDON

LONDON, December 15.—Mrs. Arthur Stannard, the authoress, known all over the English speaking world by her nom de guerre of "John Strange Winter," died at her home in this city yesterday.

Mrs. Stannard was born in York in 1846. Her novel of "Boatie's Baby," "He Went For a Soldier" and over twenty other books made her famous.

FOR MANY BUILDINGS.

WASHINGTON, December 14.—The ambitious public buildings bill, carrying a big appropriation, has been reported to the house.

Charles Frickel, aged forty-five years, was killed in New York by being run over by a horse.

YES AT POULTRY SHOW

AT POULTRY SHOW

Interesting Exhibition of Birds, Fruits and Agricultural Products.

(From Thursday's Advertiser.)

It was a case of "quack," said the duck" all day yesterday in the National Guard rifle gallery where the Hawaiian Poultry Association opened its sixth annual poultry show. Or, at least it would have been if it had not been for the fact that what the duck said was drowned out by the chorus of barney conversation carried on by the three or four hundred chickens, turkeys, geese, pigeons, pheasants and other fowls who made up the big feather family on parade for the remainder of the week before the admiring eyes of the Honolulu public.

It was not a big crowd that visited the show yesterday, but it was an interested one, and the remainder of the week is expected to bring out a large attendance, particularly in the evenings. The judging has all been done, so that the visitor can see at a glance just the quality of bird he is confronted with in the long rows of compartments with their wire fronts.

"We haven't as many entries this year as usual," said President Raymond C. Brown, of the association, yesterday. "But the quality of the birds on exhibition is way ahead of anything we ever showed before. And while a larger entry list would have been acceptable, we are more than gratified at the excellence of the display."

Poultry was not the only attraction at the show yesterday. Visitors were surprised to see the wide range of agricultural and horticultural interests catered to in the concessions that form no mean portion of the exhibition. There are displays by the territorial board of agriculture and the federal experiment station, together with a number of business houses.

The Hawaiian Hibiscus Society has a unique exhibit of the varieties of this flower grown here, nearly two hundred being shown. This is only a handful, however, compared with the number the federal authorities expect to evolve by selective breeding processes, the number already obtained reaching well up to the 20,000 mark.

In the display of fruits by the federal experiment station are some enormous papayas, some of them weighing nearly ten pounds, and measuring nearly twenty inches long and eight inches wide. These huge fruits are grown by selection, some much larger than those on exhibition having been obtained.

The processes of selective breeding, through seeds, inarching and budding, are demonstrated by plants and trees through which the various stages can be traced. There are many samples of citrus fruits of good quality, including tines, lemons, oranges, and avocados.

The members of the station staff who are in charge of the exhibition are E. V. Wilcox, special agent in charge; J. E. Higgins, horticulturist; C. K. McCallan, in charge of rice investigations; W. P. Kelley; W. T. McGeorge, chemist; David T. Fullaway, entomologist; Alice R. Thompson, assistant chemist; Chester J. Hunn, assistant horticultural products and plants, together with a soil testing apparatus, and a collection of seeds representing the important farm crops of the islands.

The processes of budding and grafting are demonstrated, with living plants and trees as models, and the anatomy of plants is shown through models used by the college students in their work. One of the unique sets of models in the territorial collection is that which shows the development of the hen's egg into a chick. There is a collection of island woods of economic value and a bacteriological exhibit which is of particular interest during these days of health campaigns.

E. G. Krauss is in charge of the field work, and V. MacCauley of the botanical work.

Just outside the exhibition building is a model poultry farm constructed by the College of Hawaii under the direction of Mr. Krauss for the purpose of demonstrating to the small farmer of household the economy of having his own chicken farm for family use.

The model farm consists of a covered wire enclosure, sides and overhead twenty by thirty feet in dimensions suitable for the accommodation of twenty-five fowls. Within is a small house built along the most modern lines. It is easily accessible from outside and has plenty of room for roosting and nesting, as well as affording shelter from sun and storm beneath. It is outfitted with trap nets, and an automatic feeder which is operated by the hens themselves in such a way that they are never given an opportunity to gorge their crops as is often the case when grain is thrown among them in handouts or left before them in large quantities.

Through the use of this apparatus the chicken farmer could leave his fowls alone for a week or so, knowing that they will be fed regularly. The machine is simple, a suspended belt offering the hens the means of getting at their food. When the hen pecks at this bait down drops a dose or more grains.

The initial cost of the chicken farm Mr. Krauss says, is \$20. The twenty fowls that can be accommodated are sufficient to supply a family of ordinary size with eggs, and the refuse from the family table is almost sufficient to furnish food for the pen. The model farm is presented as an economic unit, to demonstrate its value to the average householder and small farmer.

In the E. O. Hall a hen concession there is an incubator from which a swarm of downy little chicks are due to come tumbling this morning. One or two of them were pecking at the shells yesterday, ready for the final break into freedom today.

The show will be open for the remainder of the week, closing Saturday night.